

How to apply for a Visitor Visa

Step 1:

Complete the electronic visa application form [DS-156](#) on-line. Applications will not be accepted unless completed on the electronic form. A French version is available. Applicants may only make an appointment by entering the bar code number from the electronic application form.

(All male nonimmigrant visa applicants between the ages of 16 and 45 must also fill out and submit a [DS-157](#). Student and exchange visitor visa applicants must also fill out the [DS-158](#).)

Applicants who are required to complete these forms but who fail to do so will not be allowed to see a Consular Officer and will be asked to make another appointment after they have completed the required forms.

Step 2:

Attach a recent photo (taken within the past six months) to the application. Photo specifications are very exact. Click [here](#) for instructions.

Step 3:

Gather the required documents: (1) the completed application form, (2) a passport valid for more than six months beyond the intended stay in the United States, (3) all previous U.S. visas, even if expired, (4) your appointment confirmation sheet, and (5) supporting documents.

Step 4:

Make an appointment by clicking [here](#). Please have your bar code handy.

(Please schedule only one appointment per person. If you schedule numerous appointments, they will not be accepted.)

Step 5:

Pay the visa application fee of \$131 at Citigroup, at the intersection of Avenue Ngongo-Lutete and Avenue Colonel Lukusa in Gombe, Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If your request for a visa is approved, a one-month visa costs \$150 and a three-month visa costs \$250 for DRC passport holders.

Step 6:

Go to the Embassy consular section at the time specified on your appointment letter. All persons and property entering the U.S. Embassy are subject to search for security purposes. After inspection, mobile telephones may be checked at the entrance to the Embassy, but may not be brought inside.

Step 7:

If qualified for the visa, pay the reciprocity fee in U.S. dollars to the cashier.

Step 8:

Collect passports and visas at 15:00 the next working day. Sometimes, technical difficulties may extend the time required to complete the visa. Please apply for visas well in advance of your intended time of travel.